

# **GOVERNOR'S OCEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

## **Draft Agenda and Workplan**

### **I. INTRODUCTION OF TASK FORCE/OCEAN ENERGY OVERVIEW** (December 10, Augusta Location TBD)

#### **A. Background**

- The Maine/Regional Electric Energy Picture: Demand, Supply, Transmission & Distribution Infrastructure, Regional Grid Considerations (OEIS; MPUC)
- New and Future Electric Technologies to Displace Fossil Fuels in Heat and Transport Sectors (George Hart/OEI)
- Potential Ocean Energy Contribution to Meet Maine's Energy Demand
  - i. Offshore Wind (Habib Dagher/UMaine)
  - ii. Tidal (Chris Sauer/ORPC or EPRI)
  - iii. Offshore Oil and Gas (Bob Marvinney; MMS)

#### **B. Subcommittees:**

- Environmental & Human Impacts, including Visual
- Technology Development
- Environmental Regulations/Policy
- Utility Regulations/Policy
- Economic Development
- Oil & Gas

#### **C. Task Force Workplan and Schedule**

### **II. THE STATUS OF CURRENT AND PROJECTED TECHNOLOGIES AND DEVELOPMENT TIMEFRAMES** (January)

Panel Presentations: Current and Projected State of Technologies to Harness Ocean Energy Resources, Costs, Regulatory & Permitting Challenges and Issues, Development Opportunities & Challenges

- A. Offshore Wind (NREL; Habib Dagher/UMaine; George Hart/OEI; private developers & consultants)
- B. Tidal (EPRI; private developers & consultants)

C. Oil & Gas (Joe Kelly/Maine; Industry)

### **III. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND BENEFITS; REGULATORY CLIMATE** (January/February)

A. Environmental Impacts and Public Benefits Panels will focus on Ecological Impacts (avian, marine mammal, fisheries, habitat); Visual and Aesthetic Impacts; Competing Human Uses of Resource (fishing and recreational boats, transportation) and Tangible Public Benefits potentially attributable to development of each of the following ocean energy resources:

- Offshore Wind (State and federal resource agencies; NGOs; industry; marine industry associations)
- Tidal (State and federal resource agencies; industry; marine industry associations; coastal property owners)
- Gas and Oil (State and federal resource agencies; NGOs; industry)

B. Environmental Permitting Requirements (resource agencies to prepare written materials)

- Offshore Wind (State and federal resource agencies; private developers & consultants)
- Tidal (State and federal resource agencies; private developers & consultants)
- Gas and Oil (State and federal resource agencies; environmental engineer)

### **IV. PROMOTING OCEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES** (February/March):

A. Existing Policies and Initiatives:

- State and Regional: State Wind Policy Framework (DOC; PUC; NEGC/ISO)
- Other States: RI, MA, DE (Representatives from these states)
- Federal (US Offshore Wind Collaborative; other)
- Regional Grid Considerations

B. Changes and additions to Maine Law and Policies needed to promote development of ocean renewable energy resources in an environmentally sound manner (Subcommittee Report, Task Force Discussion)

- V. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY** (March/April):
  - A. Maine's Niche: R&D, Power Production, Manufacture, Operations Support, Spin-off Products and Technologies (DECD; UMO; MTI; Maine Maritime Academy)
  - B. Lowering Risks of and Barriers to Investment (DECD; FAME; Industry)
  - C. Public/Private Financing Strategy
- VI. PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS** (April, in time for potential early legislative action and promotion at June Ocean Wind Conference)
- VII. DRAFT SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS** (August)
- VIII. PUBLIC OUTREACH** (September)
- IX. FINALIZE REPORT** (September/October)
- X. FINAL REPORT** (October)